

A bill to amend an act to incorporate the Memphis, El Paso and Pacific Railway Company, approved Feb. 4, 1856, was read and laid on the table.

A bill for the relief of Ygnacio Perez, read a third time and passed.

Mr. Britton offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the committee on State Affairs be instructed to prepare and report a bill providing for an enumeration to be made of all free inhabitants, (Indians not taxed, Africans and the descendants of Africans excepted) of the State, designating particularly the number of qualified electors in accordance with Section 29, of the 3d Article of the State Constitution ; adopted.

Mr. Taylor, of Cass, offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the committee on State Affairs are hereby instructed to report at an early day, a Joint Resolution, to prohibit the Legislature from granting relief for claims against the State for lands or money, after the 1st day of November, 1862.

Mr. Stockdale offered the following as a substitute :

Resolved, That the committee on State Affairs be instructed to report to the Senate an amendment to the Constitution which shall be a substitute for Section 37, Article 7, which shall provide for the holding of a Convention to alter and remodel the Constitution during the year 1860.

Pending which, on motion of Mr. Guinn, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, morning at 10 o'clock.

TUESDAY, December 15, 1857.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment—prayer by the Chaplain—roll called—quorum present.

The Journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. Scarborough presented the petition of the bar of the counties of Cameron and Hidalgo, relating to the terms of the Courts therein ; referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Paschal presented the petition of Jno. S. McClellan ; referred to the committee on State Affairs, and

The petition of sundry citizens of the counties of Bexar and Guadalupe, asking the creation of a new county ; referred to the committee on Counties and County Boundaries.

Mr. Caldwell presented the petition of B. D. Bassford; referred to the Committee on Claims and Accounts.

A message was received from the House informing the Senate, that the House had passed the following bills originating in the Senate.

A bill for the relief of A. J. Coupland.

A bill to definitely define the northern boundary line of the Mississippi and Pacific Railroad reserve, and

A bill for the relief of Benjamin F. Ellis.

Also the following bills originating in the House.

A bill for the relief of John J. E. Gregory.

A bill for the relief of Polly Guthrie and the heirs of Andrew Jones, deceased.

A bill authorizing and requiring all forced sales of negroes, and real estate, made by Executors and Administrators to be made at the door of the Casimer House in the city of Indianola, and

A bill to provide for an enumeration of the inhabitants of the State of Texas for the year 1858.

Also that the House had concurred in the amendments of the Senate to the following House bills.

A bill supplemental to an act for the relief of the citizens of Mercer's Colony, passed, February 2d, 1850, and approved, August 30th, 1856.

A bill for the relief of Louisa Warren, and

A bill for the relief of Wm. Lee.

Mr. Taylor of Houston, chairman of the committee on Enrolled bills, reported the following bills correctly enrolled, properly signed, and on yesterday presented to the Governor.

A bill for the relief of A. J. Coupland.

A bill prescribing the manner of recording the votes for Governor and Lt. Governor.

A bill to amend an act to incorporate the town of Greenville.

A bill to incorporate the Richmond Masonic Hall Association in Fort Bend county.

A bill to authorize the Clerk of the County Court of Grayson county to transcribe certain records therein named, and

A bill to authorize the Commissioner of Claims to issue a duplicate certificate to Levi Korn on certain conditions.

Mr. Russell, chairman of the committee on Engrossed bills, reported.

A bill to provide for the incorporation of towns and cities, correctly engrossed.

Mr. Pirkey, chairman of committee on Public Lands, to which was referred the petition of Andrew Montgomery, and

A bill to be entitled an act to extend the benefits of the 23rd section of an act to reduce into one and amend the several acts relating to the establishment of a General Land Office, passed the 14th of December, 1837, reported, that a majority of the committee thought the legislation sought was inexpedient, and therefore instruct him to recommend their indefinite postponement.

Mr. Stockdale, from the committee on Internal Improvements, made the following report :

The committee on Internal Improvements, to which was referred the petition of the citizens of Indianola praying for a charter, allowing them to construct a rail-way connecting with that of the San Antonio and Mexican Gulf Railroad, have had the same under consideration and instruct me to report the accompanying bill and recommend its passage.

A bill to incorporate the Indianola Railroad company, read first time.

Mr. Shepard, from the committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred a bill originating in the House, to create the 19th Judicial District, have considered the same and instruct me to report the bill back to the Senate, with amendments, and recommend their adoption and the passage of the bill.

Amend 1st. In section 1 after Coryell, strike out Hamilton, and insert Bell.

Amend 2nd. Add to section 2 in the county of Bell, on the 11th Mondays after the third Mondays in March and September, and continue in session until the business is disposed of.

Amend 3rd. Strike out all in the same section relating to the courts in the county of Hamilton.

On motion of Mr. Erath, the rule was suspended, bill taken up, read, and the amendments offered by the committee adopted.

On motion of Mr. Potter the bill was further amended by inserting.

In section 6, line 4 after District, the words which are by this act embraced in the 19th Judicial District, and also by

striking out the words should business require, in the clause fixing the terms of the court for the county of Corryell.

The bill was then passed to a third reading.

On motion of Mr. Erath the rule was suspended, bill read the third time and passed.

Mr. Shepard offered the following Resolution :

Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary be, and they are hereby instructed to enquire into and report upon the propriety and necessity of making an enumeration (in accordance with the provisions of the constitution) and an apportionment of Representatives during the year 1858—rejected.

On motion of Mr. Potter, Mr. Quinan was added to the committee on State Affairs.

On motion Mr. Guinn, Mr. Fall was added to the committee on Claims and Accounts.

Mr. Potter, chairman of the committee on the Judiciary made the following report :

The Judiciary committee have further considered the Resolution, requiring them to enquire into the expediency of repealing or amending an act, entitled an act to ascertain the legal claims for money and lands against the State, and to report by bill or otherwise ; and in answer to the requirements of the Resolution, and as the opinion of the committee on the subject, I am instructed to report the accompanying bill, to be entitled an act, supplementary to, and amendatory of an act to ascertain the legal claims for money, and lands against the State, passed August 1st, A. D. 1856, and to recommend the passage of the bill. The time for the presentation of money claims against the State, is limited by the provisions of the original bill, to the 1st day of January 1858, and this provision is not proposed to be changed. The bill reported provides for the election of a commissioner to continue in office until the first day of September, 1859, and limits the time within which all Bounty, Donation and Headright certificates (except such as are exempted by the original act) are required to be presented to the commissioner for registration and approval to the first day of September 1858, and provides that all original applications for lands, whether for military services or headrights, shall be presented to the Commissioner by the day last named, and that all proof in support of claims previously presented, shall be presented to the Commissioner by the first day of January, 1859. The Commissioner will have from the first day of January, 1859, to the first day of

September of the same year, in which to examine and approve certificates which have been previously presented, and to examine and act upon original claims for land. The bill takes from the Commissioner all power to issue original certificates, but provides that he shall take the evidence in support of applications for the same, and report thereon to the next legislature. After the first day of September, 1859, the Archives of the office are to be transferred to the Comptroller's office, and from that time the Comptroller will discharge all the duties of Commissioner of Claims. The object of the committee has been to close up the business of this office, as soon as it could be done without injury to the public interest, and the committee think the proposed bill will accomplish this object.

A bill supplemental to, and amendatory of an act to ascertain the legal claims for money and lands against the State ; read first time.

Mr. Guinn, chairman of the committee on claims and accounts, made the following report :

The committee on claims and accounts to which was referred the petition of Mrs. Ann T. Hunt, widow of the late General Hunt, have had the same under consideration, and a majority of the committee instruct me to report the accompanying bill and recommend its passage. The amount reported is made by adding 23 and four-tenths cts. to the amount already paid Gen Hunt in the year 1838, with the interest on said 23 and four-tenths cts. for twelve years, which in the aggregate amounts to \$4,927 47.

This is the data upon which the amount is reported.

A bill for the relief of Mrs. Ann T. Hunt, widow of the late General Memucan Hunt ; read first time.

Messrs. Wren and Guinn, from the same committee made the following minority report.

We, the minority of the committee on Claims and Accounts, beg to dissent from the Report of the majority on the bill for relief of Mrs. Hunt, for many reasons not necessary to mention, thinking as we do that the claim has long since been fully and completely paid off. We would refer the Senate to the report made by the Hon. J. Wren on the 5th December 1851. In that report is a full and clear report of all the facts and a final adjustment, we think of the late General Hunt and the State of Texas, and to pass the bill reported, in the opinion of the minority, would be transcending and abrogating

what they conceive to be the established policy of the State ; and the passage of the bill will be the stepping stone to much Legislation and recognition of a class of claims, that will sweep from the State a larger amount than many are aware of. They hope the Senate will not pass the bill ; all of which is most respectfully submitted.

Mr. Taylor of Cass, introduced a bill to provide for the incorporation of Colleges, Universities, Academies, Seminaries, Religious and other societies, read first and second times and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Quinan introduced a bill to provide for the organization of the State Lunatic Asylum and for the care and maintenance of the insane, read first and second times, and referred to the committee on State Affairs.

Mr. Pedigo introduced a bill for the relief of Samuel Johnson, and

A bill for the relief of Samuel Raymond, or his assigns ; read first and second times and referred to the committee on Private Land Claims.

Mr. Walker introduced a Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the third section of the tenth Article of the State Constitution, read first and second times and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Russell introduced a bill to amend the first section of a Joint Resolution for the relief of the company of Rangers commanded by Capt. Wm. Becknell in the year 1836, approved, February 11, 1852; read first and second times and referred to the committee on the Militia.

Mr. Potter introduced a bill to regulate suits respecting offices, franchises, and trusts ; read first and second times and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Potter introduced a bill for the relief of Robert Baldwin; read first and second times and referred to the committee on Claims and Accounts.

Mr. McCulloch introduced a bill to provide for the stay of executions on all judgements; read first and second times and referred to the Judiciary committee.

Mr. Scarborough introduced a bill defining the time of holding the District Courts in the 12th Judicial District, and

A bill attaching the county of Hidalgo to the county of Cameron, for Judicial purposes ; read first and second times and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Potter introduced a bill for the relief of Lent M. Hitchcock; read first time.

On motion of Mr. Potter, the rule was suspended, bill read second time and ordered to be engrossed by the following vote:

YEAS.—Messrs Britton, Caldwell, Erath, Graham, Guinn, Hyde, McCulloch, Maverick, Paschal, Pirkey, Potter, Quinan, Scarborough, Shepard, Stockdale, Taylor of Cass, Taylor of Fannin, Taylor of Houston, Throckmorton, Wigfall and Wren—21.

NAYS.—Messrs Burroughs, Fall, Grimes, Lott, Martin, Russell, Truitt and Walker—8.

On motion of Mr. Guinn, the rule was suspended, bill read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Throckmorton, a bill to amend an act to incorporate the Memphis, El Paso and Pacific Railroad company, approved February 4, 1856, and also the act supplementary thereto, approved February 5, 1856, was taken from the table and read a third time.

Mr. Throckmorton offered the following amendments :

In section 2, lines five and six, after "completely graded," strike out the words, "and ready for the iron."

In section 1, line fifteen, strike out the words, "two-thirds," and insert in lieu thereof, "four fifths."

And in the eighteenth line make the same amendment.

In section 2, line six, strike out "one hundred," and insert in lieu thereof, "fifty." Adopted.

Mr. Walker offered the following amendment :

"Provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed so as to preserve and extend the time of the reservation of the vacant lands of said road, should the company fail to comply with the provisions of the acts to which this is a supplement.

On motion of Mr. Throckmorton, laid on the table.

The bill was then passed by the following vote :

YEAS.—Messrs. Britton, Caldwell, Fall, Graham, Guinn, Hyde, Lott, McCulloch, Martin, Maverick, Paschal, Pirkey, Potter, Quinan, Russell, Shepard, Taylor of Fannin, Throckmorton, Truitt, Walker, Wigfall and Wren—22.

NAYS.—Messrs Burroughs, Erath, Grimes, Herbert and Taylor of Cass—5.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

The substitute offered by Mr Stockdale for the resolution offered by Mr. Taylor of Cass, instructing the committee on State Affairs to report a joint resolution to amend the consti-

tution so as to prohibit the Legislature from granting any Private relief claims after November 1st, 1862, was read.

Mr. Stockdale then withdrew the substitute.

The original resolution was then adopted by the following vote :

YEAS.—Messrs. Burroughs, Erath, Caldwell, Graham, Grimes, Guinn, Herbert, Lott, Martin, Pirkey, Quinan, Russell, Taylor of Cass, Walker, Wigfall and Wren—16.

NAYS.—Messrs. Britton, Fall, Hyde, McCulloch, Maverick, Paschal, Potter, Shepard, Stockdale, Taylor of Fannin, Throckmorton and Truitt—12.

The motion of Mr. McCulloch to strike out the second section of a bill supplemental to an act to perfect land titles in Castro's Colony, approved January 22, 1850, special order for to-day, was read.

Mr. McCulloch then withdrew his motion.

Mr. Paschal offered a substitute for the second section of the bill ; adopted by the following vote :

YEAS.—Messrs. Britton, Burroughs, Caldwell, Erath, Guinn, Hyde, Lott, McCulloch, Martin, Maverick, Paschal, Pirkey, Potter, Shepard, Stockdale, Taylor of Cass, Throckmorton, Truitt, Walker, Wigfall and Wren—22.

NAYS.—Messrs. Fall, Herbert, Quinan and Russell—4.

On motion of Mr. Taylor of Cass, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 16, 1857.

Senate met pursuant to adjournment—prayer by the Chaplain—roll called—quorum present.

The Journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. Grimes presented the petition of Robert McIntire ; referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Erath presented the petition of sundry citizens, praying the investigation of certain land titles ; referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Truitt presented the petition of William Cravens ; referred to the committee on Claims and Accounts.

Mr. Britton, chairman of the committee on the Militia, reported back to the Senate an act to amend a joint resolution for the relief of a company of Rangers, and recommended its passage.